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Acting Assistant Surgeon Thomas was here during the past week. It was agreed that fruit steamers from the United States might again engage in the coastwise passenger trade between Cape Gracias á Dios, San Juan del Norte, and Bluefields, Nicaragua, on their way south to this port, provided the Bluefields Steamship Company will pledge itself not to carry on any of their vessels troops returning from Spanish Honduras.

PANAMA.

Report from Colon—Quarantine against Trinidad on account of plague.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Scales reports, June 19:

The latest United States bills of health from Port of Spain, Trinidad, report 2 cases and 2 deaths from bubonic plague.

The quarantine officials have taken immediate measures to prevent introduction of the disease into this port. These consist of close examination and inspection, together with quarantine, of all steerage passengers embarking at that port, and placing poison on all wharves in Colon to kill rats.

CIRCULAR.

[Inclosure.]

OFFICE CHIEF QUARANTINE OFFICER, ISTHMIAN CANAL ZONE,

Ancon, Canal Zone, June 19, 1907.

To steamship agents, captains of vessels, and others:

SIRS: In view of the fact that plague has appeared and exists in Trinidad, British West Indies, the following quarantine regulations are hereby promulgated and become effective this date:

(1) Vessels making Port of Spain a port of call en route to Colon must lie in the open bay, anchored a considerable distance from the shore.

(2) While discharging and loading cargo at Port of Spain such work must be performed only during daylight, and the captain of the vessel will be required to make an affidavit that this regulation has been obeyed. No lighters must be allowed alongside of the ship at night, and those containing unfinished cargo must be anchored some distance from the vessel. During loading and unloading cargo every precaution must be taken to prevent rats from gaining access to the vessel from lighters alongside.

(3) Steerage passengers embarking at Port of Spain for the Isthmus of Panama will be held in quarantine 5 or 7 days, as exigency may require, upon arrival at Colon; the expense of which will be charged against the steamship company whose vessel brought such passengers. Effects of all such steerage passengers will be disinfected upon arrival at Colon.

(4) No attempt at evasion of paragraph 4, given above, by bringing passengers ordinarily steerage as cabin class, will be allowed, and such a procedure will probably result in delay to the ship. Furthermore, an evasion of the regulation regarding steerage passengers by embarking such persons at the port of La Guaira or adjacent ports that have proceeded there with the intent of evading the quarantine regulations will not be allowed. The quarantine officer in such cases will use his own judgment and discretion, and any such passengers will be held in quarantine at the expense of the steamship company.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,
Chief Quarantine Officer.